THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The objectives for which IIIT, Allahabad is established are:

(i) to arrange for Instruction and training in such branches of learning as it may deem fit;

(ii) to arrange for research and for the advancement of and dissemination of knowledge;

(iii) to undertake extra-mural studies, extension programmes and field outreach activities to contribute to the development of society; and

(iv) to do all such other acts and things as may be necessary or desirable to further the objects of the Institute.

(c) The jurisdiction of the IIIT, Allahabad Society registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860 is throughout the territory of India.

(d) With a view to remove the regional technological imbalance in specified areas, the Government has set up an Extension Campus of IIIT, Allahabad at Amethi in Uttar Pradesh in April, 2005.

(e) No proposals are pending with IIIT Allahabad to open new branches or colleges.

Common school system

1447. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Advisory Board of Education in its report had recommended for common school system;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that concept of the common school system has been endorsed by several commissions and Government policies but still remained on paper; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The CABE Sub Committee has recommended a school system which aims at providing education of a comparable quality in all categories of schools to all children irrespective of their different backgrounds based on the principles and values enshrined in the Constitution.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Since education is the responsibility of both the Central and the State Governments, the issues raised earlier have remained under consideration.

Exam stress in JEE

1448. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the Standing Committee of the IIT Council was held on the 5th March, 2005, to discuss the issue of stress on students caused by the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) and for bringing out reforms therein;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether the Council of Boards of School Education in India also organized conference on the 1st May, 2005 of Chairmen of the School Education Boards on this issue;

(d) if so, the decisions taken thereat; and

(e) by when the process of examination reforms is likely to be initiated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A meeting of the Standing Committee of the IIT Council was held on 5th March, 2005 to discuss, *inter-alia,* the issue of stress on students caused by JEE and for bringing out reforms in the JEE. The Directors of all the seven IITs were called upon to come out with concrete proposals for bringing about reforms in the JEE at least from the year 2006.